

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Prescription medications play an important role in the health of millions of Americans; however, expired medications or unused drugs can pose significant health and public safety hazards; and

WHEREAS, Throwing away medications in trash cans or flushing them down the toilet can result in environmental safety and health hazards. Some medications are so potent that even one dose could be fatal if accidentally ingested; and

WHEREAS, Prescription drug abuse involves using prescribed medication in a way that was not intended by the prescriber. More than 70 percent of people who first misuse prescription medications get those pills from their friends or relatives; and

WHEREAS, Young adults aged 18-25 are the most common users of prescription medication for nonmedical use, nearly one in five teens has used a prescription drug to get high; and

WHEREAS, For over 10 years, the Washoe County Sheriff's Office has been assisting in the *Prescription Drug Take Back*: a community effort to remove unused, outdated or unwanted prescription drugs from homes; and

WHEREAS, Since 2009, local take back programs have amounted to removing over 1.2 million pills from the homes in Northern Nevada, the most recent take back program resulting in 1,787 pounds collected at local grocery and pharmaceutical partners; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Washoe County Board of Commissioners supports the Sheriff's Office *Prescription Drug Take Back* and the efforts of Washoe County Sheriff Office Reserve Lieutenant Deputy Teresa Aquila, Reserve Sergeant George Wade, Reserve Sergeant Carlos Bonilla, Reserve Sergeant Mike Field, Reserve Deputy Dave Astles and all the local partners who provide this valuable service in our community.

ADOPTED this 28th of October, 2014.

David Humke, Chairman
Washoe County Commission

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12